On Thursday, April 17, 2008, The Domestic Policy Subcommittee held a hearing titled: "After the Beef Recall: Exploring Greater Transparency in the Meat Industry." The hearing explored how transparency can enhance compliance with humane handling and food safety laws in the nation's slaughterhouses. The hearing also examined the means for achieving such transparency. The Humane Society's undercover investigation that led to the largest beef recall in the United States puts into question the adequacy of the USDA's oversight of slaughter plants.

The hearing took place in room 2154 Rayburn House Office Building at 1:00 p.m. The witnesses scheduled to testify were:

Panel I

Dr. Richard Raymond Undersecretary for Food Safety United States Department of Agriculture

Mr. Stan Painter Chairman, Joint Council of Food Inspection Locals American Federation of Government Employees

Ms. Lisa Shames
Director, Natural Resources and Environment
Government Accountability Office

Dr. Temple Grandin Professor Colorado State University

Panel II

Mr. Bev Eggleston Owner Ecofriendly Foods, LLC

Mr. Joel Salatin Owner Polyface Farms

Mr. Patrick Boyle Chief Executive Officer American Meat Institute

Panel III

Mr. Wayne Pacelle Chief Executive Officer Humane Society of the United States

Dr. John J. McGlone Fellow and Professor Texas Tech University - American Humane Program

Mr. Adam Aronson Chief Executive Officer Arrowsight, Inc.

Click below to load video of the hearing.

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Documents and Links		
Opening Statement of Subcommittee Chairman Dennis Kucinich		
Prepared testimony of Dr. Richard Raymond		
Prepared testimony of Mr. Stan Painter		
Prepared testimony of Ms. Lisa Shames		
Prepared testimony of Dr. Temple Grandin		
Prepared testimony of Mr. Bev Eggleston		
Prepared testimony of Mr. Joel Salatin		
Prepared testimony of Mr. Patrick Boyle		
Prepared testimony of Mr. Wayne Pacelle		
Prepared testimony of Dr. John J. McGlone		

Prepared testimony of Mr. Adam Aronson	
Witness List	

USDA Audit Report - Evaluation of FSIS Management Controls over Pre-Slaughter Activities

Response from Mr. Steven Mendell, Owner of Westland/Hallmark Meat Packing co. to a letter from the Domestic Policy Subcommittee